

Introduced by Senator Walters

February 27, 2009

An act to amend Section 38501 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to air pollution.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 729, as introduced, Walters. California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006.

The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 requires the State Air Resources Board to adopt regulations to require the reporting and verification of emissions of greenhouse gases and to monitor and enforce compliance with the reporting and verification program, and requires the state board to adopt a statewide greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to the statewide greenhouse gas emissions level in 1990 to be achieved by 2020. The act requires the state board to adopt rules and regulations in an open public process to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to a legislative finding within the act.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 38501 of the Health and Safety Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 38501. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:

1 (a) Global warming poses a serious threat to the economic
2 well-being, public health, natural resources, and the environment
3 of California. The potential adverse impacts of global warming
4 include the exacerbation of air quality problems, a reduction in
5 the quality and supply of water to the state from the Sierra
6 snowpack, a rise in sea levels resulting in the displacement of
7 thousands of coastal businesses and residences, damage to marine
8 ecosystems and the natural environment, and an increase in the
9 incidences of infectious diseases, asthma, and other human
10 health-related problems.

11 (b) Global warming will have detrimental effects on some of
12 California's largest industries, including agriculture, wine, tourism,
13 skiing, recreational and commercial fishing, and forestry. It will
14 also increase the strain on electricity supplies necessary to meet
15 the demand for summer air-conditioning in the hottest parts of the
16 state.

17 (c) California has long been a national and international leader
18 on energy conservation and environmental stewardship efforts,
19 including the areas of air quality protections, energy efficiency
20 requirements, renewable energy standards, natural resource
21 conservation, and greenhouse gas emission standards for passenger
22 vehicles. The program established by this division will continue
23 this tradition of environmental leadership by placing California at
24 the forefront of national and international efforts to reduce
25 emissions of greenhouse gases.

26 (d) National and international actions are necessary to fully
27 address the issue of global warming. However, action taken by
28 California to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases will have
29 far-reaching effects by encouraging other states, the federal
30 government, and other countries to act.

31 (e) By exercising a global leadership role, California will also
32 position its economy, technology centers, financial institutions,
33 and businesses to benefit from national and international efforts
34 to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. More importantly,
35 investing in the development of innovative and pioneering
36 technologies will assist California in achieving the 2020 statewide
37 limit on emissions of greenhouse gases established by this division
38 and will provide an opportunity for the state to take a global
39 economic and technological leadership role in reducing emissions
40 of greenhouse gases.

1 (f) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Air Resources
2 Board coordinate with state agencies,~~as well as~~ *and* consult with
3 the environmental justice community, industry sectors, business
4 groups, academic institutions, environmental organizations, and
5 other stakeholders in implementing this division.

6 (g) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Air Resources
7 Board consult with the Public Utilities Commission in the
8 development of emissions reduction measures, including limits on
9 emissions of greenhouse gases applied to electricity and natural
10 gas providers regulated by the Public Utilities Commission in order
11 to ensure that electricity and natural gas providers are not required
12 to meet duplicative or inconsistent regulatory requirements.

13 (h) It is the intent of the Legislature that the State Air Resources
14 Board design emissions reduction measures to meet the statewide
15 emissions limits for greenhouse gases established pursuant to this
16 division in a manner that minimizes costs and maximizes benefits
17 for California's economy, improves and modernizes California's
18 energy infrastructure and maintains electric system reliability,
19 maximizes additional environmental and economic ~~co-benefits~~
20 *cobenefits* for California, and complements the state's efforts to
21 improve air quality.

22 (i) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Climate Action
23 Team established by the Governor to coordinate the efforts set
24 forth under Executive Order S-3-05 continue its role in
25 coordinating overall climate policy.